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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

2877

PATENT
5589-04101/P992

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Stokowski et al.

Serial No. 10/679,617

Filed: October 6, 2003

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR RETICLE INSPECTION AND DEFECT REVIEW USING AERIAL IMAGING

§ Group Art Unit: 2877
§ Examiner: Unknown
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§ Atty. Dkt. No. 5589-04101
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below:

3-19-04 Pamela Gerik
Date Pamela Gerik

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
☐ within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;
☒ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus: ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or ☐ a fee of $180.00 is enclosed.

c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of $180.00 is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified:

☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:

☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or

☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or

☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or

☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) _____, and/or

☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:

5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:

6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.

7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.

8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

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If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5589-04101.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Mewherter
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Date: 3-19-04

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Form PTO-1449 (modified) List of Patents and Publications For Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DKT. NO. 5589-04101 APPLICANT: Stokowski et al. FILING DATE: October 6, 2003	SERIAL NO. 10/679,617 GROUP: 2877

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	A1	1 061 358	12/2000	EP			
	A2	1 061 571	12/2000	EP			
	A3	1 065 567	1/2001	EP			
	A4	1 066 925	1/2001	EP			
	A5	1 069 609	1/2001	EP			
	A6	99/22310	5/1999	WO			
	A7	99/25004	5/1999	WO			
	A8	99/38002	7/1999	WO			
	A9	99/41434	8/1999	WO			
	A10	99/59200	11/1999	WO			
	A11	00/03234	1/2000	WO			
	A12	00/36525	6/2000	WO			
	A13	00/68884	11/2000	WO			
	A14	00/70332	11/2000	WO			
	A15	01/09566	2/2001	WO			
	A16	01/40145	6/2001	WO			

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	A17	Otsu, "A Threshold Selection Method from Gray-Level Histograms," IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics, Vol. SMC-9, No. 1, January 1979, pp. 62-66.

EXAMINER: DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.